

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST, Wednesday, 8/13/08 - 8 PM

OFFICIALS: Mayor Brown, Administrator Lazuka, and Clerk Minnis

ROLL CALL: Trustees Forte, Kearns, Ewan, Smith & Ortiz were present; Trustee Johnson was absent.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: PW Supervisor Maltrotto, Fire Chief Vallow, PD Chief Robertson, I. Harrison, M. Nelson, S. Doran, M. Ervin, A. Russell & children, Wm.Mills, and F. Kolodziej

PRAYER AND PLEDGE: After a moment of silent prayer, Mayor Brown lead the assembly in the Pledge to the Flag.

MINUTES: Trustees Smith & Ewan made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 7/23/08 as presented. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

MAYOR: ORDINANCE 08-04. FLOODPLAIN. Passage of this ordinance is required by FEMA and the Department of National Resources for our residents to obtain flood insurance. Mayor Brown noted PW Supervisor Maltrotto is working on getting the SW corner of the village (175th & Dixie/Wood) removed from the floodplain. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-04. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

SALARY INCREASES. Trustees Smith and Ewan made the motions to approve a 3 ½ % salary increase for all non union employees (union employees received their increase as per union contract) retro active to May 1st. Roll Call: Trustees Ortiz, Forte, Ewan, & Smith voted aye; Tr. Johnson was absent; Trustee Kearns voted nay. Mtn. carried.

CLERK: A *Thank You* note was read from Virgil Donaldson's widow for the expression of sympathy received from the Village Board.

ADMINISTRATOR:

- 1) Construction Update.
 - a) Park Avenue is still closed at 171st St. There is a problem with the traffic signal.
 - b) Detention Pond is under construction. Last week's storm eroded the side walls. Plans are for 3-5" rock base with a clay liner It will be 1 ½ to 2 weeks before the pumps arrive.
- 2) Proposal for Sub Division of the Taylor property.

The rear 150' of the lot will be retained by the Village for future expansion of the Public Works Department. Robinson Eng. submitted a proposal for the Plat of Sub division. Adm. Lazuka will seek a proposal from David Ring & Assoc.

- 3) **Remodel Costs:** 1208 W. 174th St. Estimated cost to rehab this building for youth activity is \$31,000. Fire Chief Vallow said he could get volunteers to clean up the building. In discussion with a member of the board, Adm. Lazuka noted there could possibly be a change of focus. We have a \$25,000 Grant to offset the purchase of the property. The building should be a multi use facility. Should we get an architect to submit a conceptual design? Trustee Kearns said the steel structure is good perhaps we could put brick up part way around the building. It would be a 'bare bones' building for a while. Trustee Ewan said perhaps we could get the interior fixed up and do the exterior later. New plumbing and power should be installed where we will eventually want them. This should be 'staged'. After discussion, it was decided that the Administrator should come back to the Board after a price for a conceptual plan is obtained.
- 4) **Repairs to PW dump truck.** The leaf springs and rear brakes must be replaced. Last week's storm made it necessary to keep the big dump on the street for branch/tree removal. Trustees Ortiz and Kearns made the motions to approve \$2,637.00 for the replacement of the leaf springs & rear brakes plus oil change and grease job. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

Generator and transfer switch. *Again the 8/4 Storm.* Power was out at Public Safety Building (Police, Fire and Public Works) for 30 hours. It will cost \$8,500 for a back up system so that it doesn't happen again. Customs fund will pay ½ of the cost. Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to approve the purchase of the generator & transfer switch. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

5) **Police Department requests:**

- a) **squad car purchase.** Price for a 2008 Crown Victoria is \$29,028. The purchase will be made from the Custom Fund. Trustees Kearns and Forte made the motions to approve the purchase. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.
- b) **Modem replacements.** After much discussion, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to approve purchase of two (2) refurbished modems at a cost of \$800 each. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.
- c) **Purchase of lockers & carpeting.** Chief Robertson has obtained two (2) proposals for lockers. He recommended lockers at a cost of \$17,728.00. After discussion it was suggested that we obtain the third proposal before approving the purchase of eight (8) 24" lockers for the

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\$17,728.00 for eight 24” lockers for full time officers and ten 18” lockers for part timers. Members asked the Chief to seek another proposal.

Three (3) bids for carpeting had already been reviewed. Trustees Ewan and Forte made the motions to approve the \$2,700 bid for carpeting five (5) offices and the squad room from Walker Tile. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

d) **Red Flex/Red Speed.** Discussion on installation at 171st & Halsted. Red Flex is trying to put us into the South Holland contract. Red Speed is 'ready to go'. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to prepare the contract using Red Speed and the ordinance. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.

e) **Incentive for fuel saving.** Discussion followed on an incentive for fuel saving. Possibly \$250.00 for best suggestion. No decision.

6) **Anniversary Celebration.** *The Village is 90 years old!* Brief discussion. It was decided for a Committee of the Board to have a meeting next Wednesday at 7 pm to make plans for a 'celebration' / October Fest.

ENGINEER: absent.

OPEN TO VISITORS: Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried. Time: 8:55 pm

Maria Perez made inquiries about the 'Forfeited Fund' and for what purpose is the money used . Chief Robertson responded. There were two (2) funds under this title – *ASSET FORFEITURE*. (State) could only be used for drug awareness prevention; Customs Asset Forfeiture (Federal) could be used for any police purpose.

A. Russell inquired what purpose/use the village has for the 1208 W. 174th St. bldg. and about the camera in the PD. Board members commented that the building would be multipurpose use. Chief Robert responded that the camera was already installed shortly after board approval.

CLOSE: There being no other input, Trustees Kearns and Smith made the motions to close this segment of the meeting. All trustees present were in favor. Time: 9pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/License: Trustees Kearns and Smith made the motions to pay all bills on the Claims Sheets dated 8/13/08 in the amount of \$89,798.17. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.

Streets: Trustee Forte commended Public Works, Fire & Police Departments for the fine job of assisting our residents during and after Monday, 8/4 storm. Great job by village forces.

She said something should be done to encourage residents to remove trash cans from the street shortly after the scavenger empties them. Residents living on 175th Street should remove the weeds growing in the cracks of the sidewalk.

Signs/Buildings: Trustee Johnson was absent.

Health/Safety/Personnel: Trustee Ewan had nothing to report.

Water/Sewers: Trustee Smith had nothing to report.

Police/Fire: Trustee Ortiz read the monthly reports of the Fire and Police Departments. Copies are on file in the Clerk's office.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee Kearns commented on the many years of effort by this Village Administration to get 171st Street reconstructed and it's a shame to see the debris in this new street under the viaducts. He suggested the Police ticket anyone seen tossing debris (bottles, cans, etc.) onto the street.

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Ewan inquired about the recent 'Casino' Meeting held in Country Club Hills. Trustee Forte said residents should be aware of people sitting in parked cars. Call the police and let them check it out.

The Fire Department and Public Works were 'on the streets' all night of the 8/4 storm. Rory and Bill spent long hours checking on the well being of our senior citizens and those with medical problems. Trustee Kearns inquired about updating our 'Disaster Plan'.

Chief Robertson said inquiries at the Neighborhood Watch Program lead him to suggest that anyone wanting to see how our courts work should 'sit in' on court sessions. He will make available a list of dates that our Village has court appearances.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Aministrator Lazuka applauded PW Supervisor & Fire Chief for their untiring commitment during the aftermath of the 8/4 storm. Chief Vallow and Supervisor Maltrotto were on duty for three (3) days in an effort to serve those in need after the storm. The Volunteer Firemen and the Public Works personnel worked long hours diligently without complaint to clean up after the storm. Both departments went far beyond expectations during and after this damaging storm. They should be commended.

Fire Chief Vallow thanked the Village Board for their support and attendance to the Memorial Service for Fireman Leslie Carlson last week.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business to come before the Council, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to adjourn. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried. Time: 9:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Minnis
Village Clerk